

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in *Ireland*, for the Year 1855-6.

(*Pursuant to Act of Parliament, 53 Geo. 3, c. 107.*)

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE WILLIAM FREDERICK EARL OF CARLISLE, &c.,
LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL
AND GENERAL-GOVERNOR OF IRELAND, &c. &c. &c.

WE, "the Commissioners of Education in Ireland," constituted and appointed by Acts of Parliament made and passed in the 53d year of the reign of his Majesty George the Third, and the third year of the reign of his Majesty George the Fourth, do, in obedience to the provisions thereof, respectfully submit to your Excellency a Report of the "General Proceedings" of the Board since their last Report.

In consequence of representations made to us that it would be judicious that certain alterations should be made in the course of studies for the candidates at the Competitive Examinations for the Exhibitions or Royal Scholarships founded by us in Trinity College, pursuant to the powers vested in us by the 53d Geo. 3, c. 107; we procured from the Court of Examiners in the University a report containing their views and suggestions as to such alterations; and having submitted these suggestions to the Masters of the different Royal Schools with which these Scholarships or Exhibitions are connected, and having obtained from them their opinions and advice, we have made such alterations as seemed to us to be necessary and beneficial, and we beg to refer your Excellency to a copy of the rules as they now stand amended, and attached to this our General Report.

And we further beg to submit to your Excellency the list of the Exhibitioners at present receiving from us annual grants as the reward of success at a Competitive Examination for the election, and of that continued industry and merit which is necessary to enable the holders to retain these exhibitions during their under-graduate course in the College.

On the Armagh Royal School Foundation—

R. Reeves - - - - -	£. 50 per annum.
S. Anderson - - - - -	25 "
W. C. Eades - - - - -	25 "
T. B. Tracey - - - - -	50 "
W. P. Robinson - - - - -	10 "
J. Boxwell - - - - -	50 "
W. H. Rice - - - - -	30 "

On the Dungannon Royal School Foundation—

C. Baker - - - - -	£. 50 per annum.
W. E. Foy - - - - -	50 "
J. W. Chambers - - - - -	50 "
J. Rowley - - - - -	50 "
G. Keys - - - - -	20 "
C. Twigg - - - - -	50 "

On the Enniskillen Royal School Foundation—

W. Bradford	-	-	-	-	-	£. 50 per annum.
A. Mitchell	-	-	-	-	-	30 "
J. W. Quintin	-	-	-	-	-	50 "
T. W. Carron	-	-	-	-	-	30 "
F. F. Flynn	-	-	-	-	-	50 "
R. Irvine	-	-	-	-	-	50 "
J. Read	-	-	-	-	-	30 "
S. Armstrong	-	-	-	-	-	50 "
E. Cottingham	-	-	-	-	-	30 "

Foundation Scholars—

W. Quintin	-	-	-	-	-	£. 20 per annum.
T. Bradford	-	-	-	-	-	20 "
J. J. Beatty	-	-	-	-	-	20 "
D. Murphy	-	-	-	-	-	20 "

And we beg to state to your Excellency that from time to time since our last Annual Report, we have expended on repairs and improvements at the different School-houses and premises of public and private foundation under our control, such sums of money as the exigencies of each case, and the amount of funds at our command enabled us to do. And we may report that, with few exceptions, they are now in a good and substantial condition.

The nature of the tenure by us of Banagher School-house, and the very small income belonging to that foundation, have prevented our putting this establishment into such a condition as it would be desirable, were there funds available for that purpose.

At Raphoe Royal School, the Master recently appointed by Government feeling so strongly the absolute necessity that existed for a considerable outlay, in order to make the School premises suitable for the comfort and respectability of the establishment, and more consonant to the wants of the present time, and being aware that the Commissioners had not funds applicable thereto, induced this Board to borrow a considerable sum which has been laid out on modernising and improving the buildings; the Master having most liberally made over and surrendered to the Board the entire of his annual salary until the full amount so borrowed and advanced for this School shall have been paid off; and he has reported to us that already his School has begun to feel the beneficial effects of his exertions and sacrifices.

On the Dungannon School Estate we are, with the assistance of the Grand Jury of the county Tyrone, and sanction of the Government Drainage Commissioners, making a road and bridges, which from the reports of our agent, and the memorials of our tenants, we believe will be of very considerable advantage to the tenants, and ultimately to the estate generally.

We regret to have to report that the want of funds for such purposes has compelled us to refuse to grant any superannuation allowance to a gentleman of high character and attainments as a scholar, who after having filled the situation of first classical assistant at Enniskillen Royal School for a very long period, has by age and ill-health been obliged to resign his situation.

The periodical returns furnished to us by the Masters of the respective Schools do not set forth any matters calling for any special notice or report to your

Excellency, except as regards the Diocesan Schools, many of which continue to be in the same unsatisfactory condition, as has been from time to time stated in our annual Reports; and as there are no funds over which we have any power, available for the repairs or support of the School-houses, they are daily becoming more and more dilapidated.

In reference to the Tullyvin Foundation, in the county of Cavan, we beg to state to your Excellency that we, at the suggestion of the Trustees appointed by the Court of Chancery, and at the request of many parties resident in that locality, have established a School, supplementary to the principal one (built at the remote end of the Estate), having adapted to that purpose a house rented by us, and having appointed a Master and Mistress for the male and female Schools respectively. And the Trustees have recently reported to us, that a considerable number of children of both sexes avail themselves of the benefit of this endowment.

And we have further to state, that we have given directions to our Secretary to afford all information, and every facility in his power, to the Royal Commission lately issued in reference to the Endowed Schools of Ireland, with which directions we believe he has fully complied.

All which we beg respectfully to submit to your Excellency, as a Report of our "General Proceedings" for the past year.

(signed)	JOSEPH H. MEATH.	(L. S.)
	MAZIERE BRADY, C.	(L. S.)
	FRANCIS BLACKBURNE,	(L. S.)
	ROBERT SHAW.	(L. S.)
	RICHARD MACDONNELL.	(L. S.)
	ACHESON LYLE.	(L. S.)
	JAMES CORK.	(L. S.)

8, Clare-street, }
29 April 1856. }

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,
Secretary.

REGULATIONS of the "COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in IRELAND," as to the
ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded Thirty Exhibitions, called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan, viz., five scholarships of 50 *l.* per annum each for Armagh School; and five of 50 *l.* per annum, and five of 30 *l.* per annum for each of the schools of Dungannon and Enniskillen; and five of 25 *l.* per annum for Cavan School.

These scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been at least three years in all, previous to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal schools. It is not, however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of them to another; but the scholarships founded for the respective schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such scholarships have been founded.

The scholarships to be tenable for five years from the time of their being obtained, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The provost and senior fellows have signified their willingness to appoint examiners in each year, to examine on the first convenient day after the November entrance, such students as shall have entered from the said four Royal schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these scholarships.

The examination will be in the course recently prescribed for entrance into T. C. D. (omitting Virgil's *Æneid*, Xenophon, and Lucian). In Stanford's Selections from Plato; and in passages taken from such Greek and Latin authors as are not parts of the T. C. D. entrance course.

In translating French into English.

In such a knowledge of English Literature, and the History of English Literature, as may be derived from "Milton's *Paradise Lost*," and "Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*."

In History:

Ancient; as contained in the Old and New Testaments.

Grecian; that published by Dr. William Smith.

Romea; Keightley's Roman Republic and Empire.

English; Keightley's English History.

The examination will be carried on wholly by means of written papers, that in history alone excepted.

The proficiency of the candidates in Greek, Latin, and English Composition will be particularly inquired into; and also their knowledge of the rules of Greek and Latin versification, with their skill in making verses in both languages. Especial attention being given to Ancient and Modern History and Geography, as contained in the works specified.

N.B.—The Special Course will be from time to time varied.

No fellow commoner can be admitted as a candidate for a Royal scholarship.

No pensioner shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal scholarship, who shall not have remained at one of the Royal schools, to which the scholarships are attached, till the October or November entrance examination in T. C. D. immediately preceding the examination for Royal scholarships at which he may be a candidate.

No sizar shall be admitted as a candidate who shall not have remained at such Royal school till the sizarship entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal scholarships at which he may be a candidate.

No student whose age shall exceed nineteen years shall be permitted to become a candidate for a Royal scholarship.

No student shall be elected a Royal scholar unless he shall have, previously to the examination for Royal scholarships, lodged with the Secretary of the Board, a certificate signed by the Master of the Royal School from which he shall have entered T. C. D. stating that such candidate has conformed to the rules of the Commissioners.

The candidates from each school shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without any distinction of schools; the Commissioners reserving to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more scholarships, if sufficient merit has not been shown by the candidates.

In cases of equality of merit in all other respects, the poverty of a candidate will be taken into consideration. A student who has once been a candidate cannot be eligible on a subsequent occasion.

Students when appointed to these scholarships may retain them for five years from the time of their election; provided that, proceeding regularly with their respective classes, they obtain in each year of their undergraduate course one honor of the first rank, or two honors of the second rank. The election itself to one of these scholarships being reckoned as equivalent to one honor of the second rank, obtained in the Junior Freshman year; a moderatorship as an honor of the first rank, in the Senior Sophister year; and an university scholarship, in whatever year obtained, as equivalent to an honor of the first rank at the Term examination in that year.

A Royal

A Royal scholarship shall become forfeited by the holder of it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or rustication; or when all the examinations of any year have elapsed without his having obtained in that year one honor of the first rank, or two honors of the second rank, or that which is stated in the preceding regulation as equivalent to these honors.

The exhibitions to become due half-yearly, viz., on the 1st of May, and on the 1st of November. Payments to be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honor of the second rank. A half-yearly payment, held over in May, to be made in November, provided an honor has been obtained in the mean time; and a payment for the year to be made in November to such students as shall have, between the 1st of May and 1st of November, fulfilled all the requisites for the year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding scholarships of 30 *l.* yearly, and where scholarships of 50 *l.* for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such distinguished students for an increase of their stipend from 30 *l.* to 50 *l.* yearly, during the remainder of their scholarship; and where such promotion shall have taken place, the scholarship of 30 *l.*, previously held, will then be rendered vacant.

RESOLUTION of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, adopted in compliance with the wishes of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

Resolved,—That the scholars appointed from the Royal schools by "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland," be permitted to wear velvet caps, and that their names be inserted on the college books, immediately after the names of the University scholars, without however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

MIDDLETON SCHOOL.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" will grant annually, two prizes, one of 30 *l.* and one of 20 *l.*, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal Schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Middleton School; and having been examined along with and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiners as deserving candidates.

8, Clare Street,
29 November 1855.

William Cotter Kyle, LL.D.,
Secretary to "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

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